

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sewing machine comprising: an arm including a vertical portion and a horizontal portion having at least one sewing needle mounted thereon;

a bed extending in parallel to said horizontal portion of said arm under said horizontal portion;

two first rails extending in parallel to said bed in the neighborhood of ~~the side~~ a side portion of said vertical portion of said arm, each first rail comprising a proximate end and a distal end relative to said vertical portion of said arm;

first carriages adapted to slide on said first rails, respectively, each first carriage comprising a proximate end and a distal end relative to said vertical portion of said arm;

a second rail connected to the distal ends of said first carriages and perpendicular to said first rails, the distance between said two first rails is shorter than or equal to ~~the~~ to a length of said second rail;

a second carriage adapted to slide on said second ~~rail; and~~ rail;

a embroidery frame unit mounted on a portion of said second carriage furthest from said vertical portion of said arm and outboard to said first carriages; ~~on the side portion of said second rail located far from said vertical portion of said arm;~~

~~wherein said first carriages are located on one side of said second rail, and said embroidery frame unit is located on the other side of said second rail~~

wherein said first carriages are each an elongate member disposed in a same direction as said first rails, each of said first carriages is configured to slide on a corresponding one of said first rails; and

wherein the distal ends of said first carriages are configured to extend beyond the distal ends of said first rails by a distance substantially equal to a length of said first carriages.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said first rails are arranged in the neighborhood of said bed.

4. (Previously Presented) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said arm has a unilateral open structure.

5. (Previously Presented) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said arm and said bed are formed integrally.

6. (Previously Presented) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said second rail includes a slide support unit adapted to support said second rail slidably in the same direction as said first carriages.

7. (Original) A sewing machine according to claim 6, further comprising a third rail arranged on said bed for said sliding support unit.

8. (Original) A sewing machine comprising: an arm including a vertical portion and a horizontal portion having at least one sewing needle mounted thereon; a bed extending in parallel to said horizontal portion of said arm under said horizontal portion; two first rails extending in parallel to said bed in the neighborhood of the side portion of said vertical portion of said arm; first carriages adapted to slide on said first rails, respectively; and a second rail connected to said first carriages and perpendicular to said first rails, said second rail being longer than the distance between said two first rails; a second carriage adapted to slide on said second rail; and an embroidery frame unit mounted on said second carriage on the side portion of said second rail located far from said vertical portion of said arm; wherein said second rail is separable alone or in combination with said second carriage and/or said embroidery frame unit.

9. (New) A sewing machine according to claim 1, wherein said second rail is separable alone or in combination with said second carriage and/or said embroidery frame unit.